

# SC 133 Bridge replacement

BY GREG OLIVER  
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CLEMSON — Plans for the S.C. Highway 133 bridge replacement and widening project are progressing.

Clemson City Engineer Kent Guthrie said Norfolk Southern has responded to an engineering design submitted by Thrift Development Corporation.

"The comments are nothing that will stop the alternate design from moving forward," Guthrie said.

Rob Perry, project engineer for the South Carolina Department of Transportation, said Thrift and its design consultant Triplett King are revising the construction plans to address all comments from Norfolk Southern.

"Once revisions are made, Thrift will have to resubmit construction plans to Norfolk Southern for final approval and that could take another 15 to 30 days," Perry said.

During a public meeting held last October, Marty McKee, vice-president of Thrift Development Corporation, said Thrift's value engineering proposal involves the slight relocation of the existing railroad track to make room for an additional railroad track. According to McKee, the proposal would considerably lessen the noise impact since drill shafts would be used rather than driving 376 steel piles.

"You've got Calhoun Corners and some older homes, and you can elimi-

nate much of that (noise) with drill shafts, since you would be drilling rather than banging," McKee said.

Although receiving final approval from Norfolk Southern has been a lengthy process, Perry said the project is continuing to move.

"Let me assure you that this is progress and good news for Thrift," Perry said.

Meanwhile, Guthrie said Norfolk Southern has approved the revised retaining wall design. Clemson City Administrator Rick Cotton said the walls will remain blank for a while.

"It's going to look like a blank concrete wall for a couple of years," Cotton said. "I wish we had the

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## *moving along*



Norfolk Southern officials have issued comments regarding a value engineering proposal by Thrift Development Corporation regarding the S.C. 133 bridge replacement and road widening project. Revisions are being made and the project is still expected to begin sometime this year.

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money to do something there right now, but we don't."

Perry said that while

there will be some lane closures once the bridge replacement project begins later this year, at least one

lane will remain open for travel.

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